

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: IO/AGRCPJBYRNES:DKS

APPROVED BY: IO/SA:MESWOPE

-----040634Z 121352 /16

R 031903Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION EC BRUSSELS APRIL 29:

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 094832

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM SECSTATE WASHDC DATED APRIL 27, 1977
SENT ABIDJAN, BANGKOK, BELGRADE, BONN, BUDAPEST, BUENOS
AIRES, CAIRO, CANBERRA, CARACAS, COLOMBO, DACCA, GUATEMALA,
JAKARTA, KIGALI, KINGSTON, LAGOS, LONDON, MANILA, MEXICO,
MOGADISCIO, MOSCOW, NDJAMENA, NAIROBI, NOUAKCHOTT, OTTAWA,
PARIS, PORT OF SPAIN, ROME, STOCKHOLM, ANTANANARIVO,
TEHRAN, TOKYO, WARSAW IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNWFC, EAGR

SUBJECT: WORLD FOOD COUNCIL (WFC) THIRD SESSION

1. THE PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE WFC THIRD SESSION WILL
TAKE PLACE MAY 9-13, IN ROME. THE THIRD MINISTERIAL SESSION
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WILL BE HELD IN MANILA JUNE 20-24. THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL,
IN ITS ROLE AS OVERSIGHT BODY, CAN EXERCISE A CONSIDERABLE
POSITIVE INFLUENCE OVER INTERNATIONAL FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
POLICY, AND THE THIRD SESSION IS A PRIME OPPORTUNITY TO
TAKE FORWARD STEPS IN REALIZING ITS POTENTIAL IN THS
REGARD.

2. THE UNITED STATES IS WILLING TO DO ITS PART IN HELPING TO BRING ABOUT A CONSTRUCTIVE AND SUCCESSFUL MEETING. ASD EVIDENCE OF THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THE WFC, THE US IS PLANNING TO DESIGNATE AGRICULTURE SECRETARY BOB BERGLAND AS ITS DELEGATE TO THE MINISTERIAL MEETING. AT THE SAME TIME, THE US IS PREPARED TO ATTEND THE PREPARATORY MEETING IN A SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING AND OPEN-MINDEDNESS, BRINGING SUGGESTIONS WHICH MAY HELP TO FACILITATE MINISTERIAL DELIBERATIONS AND ENSURE THAT THEY ARE FOCUSED ON SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS OF WIDESPREAD CONCERN. THE US IS HOPEFUL THAT OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL COME IN A LIKE SPIRIT, BOTH IN THE FORMULATION OF THEIR APPROACH TO THE MEETINGS AND IN THE SELECTION OF THEIR DELEGATIONS.

3. THE UNITED STATES SHARES WITH OTHERS THE BELIEF THAT THE PROBLEM OF HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION SHOULD BE THE CENTRAL CONCERN OF THE COUNCIL. THERE WOULD BE NO MORE FITTING WAY TO UNDERLINE THE CENTRAL IMPORTANCE OF THIS CONCERN THAN BY ADOPTING HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION AS THE UNIFYING THEME OF THE THIRD SESSION. FOCUSING WFC DISCUSSION ON THE PROBLEM OF HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION WOULD HAVE IMPLICATIONS BOTH FOR THE ROLE OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL AMONG INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEALING WITH FOOD AND AGRICULTURE AS WELL AS FOR THE TREATMENT OF TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE UPCOMING MEETING. WFC COULD MAKE A VITAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE EFFORTS OF BOTH DONORS AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BY STRESSING THE NEEDIEST MEMBERS OF SOCIETY, NUTRITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS AND DISTRIBUTIVE ASPECTS OF FOOD PRODUCTION INCREASES AND OTHER POLICY MEASURES.

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MOREOVER, THE PROBLEM OF HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION IS OF SUFFICIENT IMPORTANCE, WITH WIDE ENOUGH APPEAL AND INTEREST THAT IT DESERVES INCREASED ATTENTION AND SERIOUS DISCUSSION. IF OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE PREPARED TO SUPPORT THIS APPROACH TO THE MEETING, THE UNITED STATES SUGGESTS THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

(1) THAT EARLY IN THE PREPARATORY MEETING, THE US AND OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS PROPOSE THAT THE PROBLEM OF HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION BE ADOPTED AS THE UNIFYING THEME OF THE THIRD SESSION, TO BE KEPT IN MIND WHEN ADDRESSING ALL OF THE TOPICS ON THE AGENDA;

(2) THAT ITEM 6A OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS THE LAST MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE TOPIC OF THE MEETING, I.E. IMMEDIATELY AFTER ITEM 6C - IN THIS POSITION THE TOPIC CAN SERVE IN THE WAY OF A SUMMARY, DRAWING FROM DISCUSSIONS OF OTHER AGENDA ITEMS THOSE ELEMENTS WHICH ARE DIRECTLY RELEVANT TO A CONSIDERATION OF THE WAYS IN WHICH

THE PROBLEM OF HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION SHOULD BE ATTACKED.

4. POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO DRAW UPON THE ABOVE STATEMENT IN SEEKING HOST GOVERNMENT VIEWS ON THE UPCOMING MAY SESSION, REQUESTING INFORMATION ON PERSONS LIKELY TO HEAD ITS JUNE DELEGATION, AND IN ASCERTAINING THE EXTENT OF SUPPORT FOR AAJ NENCEPT OF A UNIFYING THEME FOR THE THIRD SESSION. SIGNIFICANT RESULTS OF SUCH CONTACTS SHOULD BE REPORTED TO WASHINGTON ROME FOR FODAG.

5. FOR BELGRADE, BUENOS AIRES AND JAKARTA. IN VIEW OF

THEIR STANDING AND INFLUENCE AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRY WFC

MEMBERS THE USG IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN WHETHER YUGOSLAVIA, ARGENTINA AND INDONESIA WOULD BE WILLING TO MAKE A PLENARY STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR THE US PROPOSAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTAINED PARA. 3 ABOVE, TO IDENTIFY THE PROBLEM OF HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION AS THE CENTRAL THEME OF THE THIRD SESSION. THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT WANT THIS SUGGESTION TO BECOME AN ISSUE WHICH DIVIDES COUNCIL MEMBERS ALONG FACTIONAL LINES. THESE POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF THEIR CONTACTS BEFORE COB TUESDAY, MAY 3.

6. FOR FODAG ROME: WE PLAN TO RAISE THE MATTER DISCUSSED PARAGRAPH 3 ABOVE WITH HARRY WALTERS DURING HIS SCHEDULED TRIP TO WASHINGTON APRIL 28-29, IN ORDER TO ENLIST WFC SECRETARIAT COOPERATION IN AN INITIATIVE WHICH WE CONSIDER BOTH TO BE IN THEIR INTEREST AND CONSISTENT WITH THEIR PERCEPTION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF AGENDA 6A. YOU THEREFORE DO NOT NEED TO RAISE THIS MATTER WITH OTHER SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVES UNLESS YOU SEE AN ADVANTAGE IN DOING SO. VANCE UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PLANNING MEETINGS, FOODS, MALNUTRITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE194832
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/AGRCPJBYRNES:DKS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770155-1225
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770598/aaaadhag.tel
Line Count: 155
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 87c6309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2651931
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WORLD FOOD COUNCIL (WFC) THIRD SESSION
TAGS: PORG, EAGR, XX, UNWFC
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/87c6309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009